(c) and (d) During the Trade Policy Forum meeting details about India's well established regime for protection of intellectual property rights, including in pharmaceutical sector, was conveyed to the US side. India's concerns about piracy of music and movies from India in the US were also conveyed to them.

Trade in Goods Agreement with ASEAN

605. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India entered into Trade in Goods Agreement under Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement with ASEAN recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what is the status of negotiations with regard to Services Agreement with ASEAN; and

(d) the sector-wise details of tariff liberalization benefit that India would get with the signing of Trade in Goods Agreement with ASEAN?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) India signed the Trade in Goods Agreement with ASEAN on 13th August, 2009. This Agreement is envisaged to come into force with effect from 1st January, 2010.

(c) Negotiations for Services Agreement with ASEAN are underway and are targeted to be concluded by August, 2010.

(d) Tariff liberalisation under the Agreement would lead to growth in bilateral trade and investment resulting in economic welfare gains to India, Indian exporters of Machinery and Machine Parts, Steel and Steel Products, Oilcake, Wheat, Buffalo Meat, Automobiles and Auto Components, Chemicals, Synthetic Textiles, etc. would gain additional market access into the ASEAN countries. Indian manufacturers would gain additional market access into the ASEAN countries. Indian manufacturers would be able to source intermediate products at competitive prices from the ASEAN markets for further reprocessing and export. Full details of tariff liberalisation offered by ASEAN Countries to India are available at http://commerce.gov.in/trade/international_ta_indasean.asp.

Convergence of G-22 on modalities at WTO

606. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether WTO's G-22 Group comprising of large developing countries like India, Brazil, China, etc. converge on a well defined modality which could be effectively taken up and

forcefully negotiated to get desired results which earlier WTO meetings in Doha rounds have failed to produce;

(b) if so, what are the perceptible outcomes with regard to safety of interests of farmers in developing countries; and

(c) whether G-22 Group has been able to convince the major players like US or EU in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JYOTIRADITYA MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) The G-20[1] is a group of developing countries which came together on 20 August, 2003. The G-20 has been a driving force and works towards ambitious reforms of agriculture in developed countries with some flexibility for developing countries, thus working towards protection of interests of poor farmers.

There is broad convergence within the G-20 on the issue of special flexibilities for developing countries like lower tariff cuts, longer time limits for implementation. Its technical contributions and its political commitment have helped advance the negotiations towards the common goal of eliminating the trade-distorting policies maintained by developed countries.

India, as a member of the G-20, has maintained that promoting the interests of its low income and resource poor farmers is a key priority. India is working intensively with the G-20 to keep pressure up on developed countries to seek effective cuts in Overall Trade-distorting Domestic Support (OTDS), to bring about effective disciplines on green box domestic support; not to allow creation of new tariff rate quotas (TRQs), not to allow expansion of tariff quota on sensitive products, for elimination of the Special Safeguard (SSG) and for 100% tariff simplification and also for tariff capping in developed countries.

Steps taken for growth of exports

607. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether effective steps are being taken to give fillip to the growth of exports in view of the shrinkage of exports during the financial year 2008-09 due to global recessionary trends;

(b) if so, will the emphasis be on exploring further markets or introducing new export-items customized to emerging export markets; and

(c) the percentage decline in exports during 2008-09 *vis-a-vis* 2007-08?

[1] The G-20 Group Comprises 23 member countries: 5 from Africa (Egypt, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe), 6 from Asia (China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines and Thailand) and 12 from Latin America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Cube, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela)